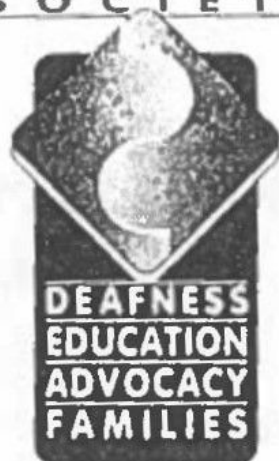


# CONNECT

SOCIETY



## Who We Are

Founded in 1963, the Connect Society's purpose has always been to help and support deaf individuals and their families to become full participants in society. Over the years, our commitment to meeting the needs of the deaf community has inspired a variety of centre-based and outreach services that are responsive to a broad range of groups, needs, and abilities.

# Our Mission

Connect Society exists to help deaf and hard of hearing individuals and their families to fully participate in society.

# Our Values

We believe that people who are deaf are people first.

We believe in an individual's right to participate as fully as possible in all aspects of community life and society.

We believe in an individual's right to the communication mode that supports and enhances their communication strengths.

We believe that families deserve the support and services necessary to help them understand deafness and the needs of their deaf family member.



# Our Philosophy

Our programs are offered in an environment that respects the languages and cultures of both deaf and hearing communities.



## We Offer Innovative Programs

Our programs help to bridge the gap between the deaf and hearing cultures. Fundamental to our approach is that deafness does not define a person. Deafness presents challenges to people, and our programs exist to help people who are deaf or hard of hearing effectively meet those challenges.

Our family-focused approach helps deaf individuals and their families to expand their knowledge base, increase self-understanding, and develop the skills required to live productively in the world.



Related support services help parents to gain insight and develop strategies to overcome the barriers that deafness may bring to their children and their family.

## ***EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM***

*This home-based program is for families with young children who are deaf or hard of hearing, and for deaf parented families with hearing children.*

*We provide a variety of enriched language activities that focus on building communication in the family using a family guided approach.*

## ***EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICE (ECS)***

*Deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing children of deaf parents develop communication and language skills in our early childhood, experiential based learning centre. This holistic approach to a child's language development extends to supporting social, physical, and creative thinking skills.*

## ***DEAF YOUTH OUTREACH PROGRAM***

*We offer deaf youth from outside Edmonton the option of community living while attending specialized education programs in the city. Within a home environment staff provide support, guidance, and supervision to the students.*

## ***COMMUNITY LIVING SUPPORT SERVICE***

*Through our community-based outreach program adults living on their own, who are both deaf and developmentally delayed, are helped to foster their own lifestyle and participate in community life. Here, we promote the development of basic living skills, encourage communication and social development, and support people's efforts to reach their full potential.*

*Communication consultation services are also available.*

## ***FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS***

*Key to the development of all family support programs are the needs of individual families. Planning and implementation of educational sessions, parent groups and family activities are guided by the needs and interests of the variety of consumer groups we serve.*

## ***INFORMATION, RESOURCE, AND REFERRAL SERVICE***

*Community agencies, government departments, and the general public turn to us for guidance in delivering their services to children and adults who are deaf. We also provide information and advocate for persons who are deaf in order to increase their access to community resources and services.*

The Connect Society is a non-profit,  
charitable organization.

All of our staff are professionals, use sign language, and  
are knowledgeable about deafness.

Charitable Donation #-0249862-11-25

# **CONNECT**

**SOCIETY**



West Entrance, St. Andrew School  
11342 - 127 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5M 0T8  
Telephone: (403) 454-9581 (Voice/TTY)  
Fax: (403) 447-5820